



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets
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DECEMBER MILK PRODUCTION

New York dairy herds produced 1.02 billion pounds of milk during December according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field office. Milk cows declined while production per cow was up from the previous year resulting in a 0.3 percent decrease in milk production compared to December 2008. The number of milk cows averaged 610,000 head, down 15,000 head from December of the previous year. Milk per cow averaged 1675 pounds, up from the December 2008 rate.

Dairy farmers in the Empire State received an average of \$16.30 per hundredweight of milk sold during December, up \$1.00 from November and 20 cents more than December a year ago.

Milk production in the 23 major States during December totaled 14.6 billion pounds, down 0.8 percent from December 2008. November revised production at 14.0 billion pounds, was down 0.8 percent from November 2008. The November revision represented a increase of 24 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,758 pounds for December, 29 pounds above December 2008. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.31 million head, 206,000 head less than December 2008, and unchanged November 2009.

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